



TOM LEE
President of the Senate

THE FLORIDA LEGISLATURE



ALLAN BENSE
*Speaker of the House of
Representatives*

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Senate President Tom Lee and House Speaker Allan Bense Announce Joint Regional Public Hearings on Medicaid Reform

Tallahassee, Fla. – In preparation for upcoming legislative action on Medicaid, the Senate and House today announced their intention to conduct joint public hearings on Medicaid Reform. These regional hearings will take place throughout Florida beginning Friday, February 11 and concluding on Monday, March 14.

The purpose of the hearings is to gather information from providers and Medicaid recipients who may be affected by changes to Florida's Medicaid program and to collect innovative ideas on ways to reduce the rapid growth in Medicaid costs while continuing to provide needed services to Florida's elderly and disabled. The Committees will also solicit input on the Governor's proposal to reform Medicaid.

Today's information follows recent announcements by the Senate President and the House Speaker of the formation of a Senate Select Committee on Medicaid Reform and a House Select Committee on Medicaid Reform. These committees have been charged with the responsibility of gathering information and making recommendations to their respective chambers for changes to the state's Medicaid program. Attached is a list of the membership of the two select committees.

The dates and regional location of each public hearing are listed below, but are subject to change. Please refer to the published calendars for the House and Senate which will reflect the most up-to-date information, which can be accessed on the legislative websites: www.flsenate.gov or www.myfloridahouse.gov.

Members of the Senate Select Committee on Medicaid Reform

Sen. Lisa Carlton (R- Sarasota), Chair
Sen. Burt Saunders (R- Naples)
Sen. Mike Haridopolos (R- Melbourne)
Sen. Walter Campbell (D- Ft. Lauderdale)
Sen. Ron Klein (D-Boca Raton)

Sen. Jeffery Atwater (R- Palm Beach), Vice Chair
Sen. Durell Peaden (R- Crestview)
Sen. Alex Villalobos (R- Miami)
Sen. Mandy Dawson (D-Ft. Lauderdale)

Members on the House Select Committee on Medicaid Reform

Rep. Joe Negron (R -Stuart), Co-Chair
Rep. Joyce Cusack (D-DeLand)
Rep. Andy Gardiner (R –Orlando)
Rep. Marco Rubio (R – West Miami)
Rep. Eleanor Sobel (D- Hollywood)

Rep. Holly Benson (R –Pensacola), Co-Chair
Rep. Anne Gannon (D- Delray Beach)
Rep. Mark Mahon (R – Jacksonville)
Rep. Aaron Bean (R – Fernandina Beach)

Proposed Joint Hearing Schedule

Date: Friday, February 11, 2005
Time: 1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Location: University of South Florida, Gibbons Alumni Center, Tampa

Date: Monday, February 14, 2005
Time: 1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Location: Ft. Lauderdale, (exact location, TBA)

Date: Monday, February 21, 2005
Time: 1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Location: Orlando, (exact location, TBA)

Date: Friday, February 25, 2005
Time: 1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Location: Panama City, (exact location, TBA)

Date: Monday, March 14, 2005
Time: 1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Location Jacksonville, (exact location, TBA)

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